

Message Text

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ACTION DOE-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10
IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05 OES-07
SOE-02 DODE-00 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 PM-05 /126 W
-----096168 130311Z /15

R 120915Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4164
INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MANILA 5722

VIENNA FOR USMISSION IAEA
TOKYO FOR DOE REP HENNOCH

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: TECH, ENRG, PARM, RP
SUBJ: DOE (ERDA) GRANT OF HIGHLY ENRICHED URANIUM TO PHILIPPINE
NUCLEAR RESEARCH REACTOR

REFS: 77 STATE 284232, STATE 060955, STATE 088681

1. REFTELS HAVE RAISED QUESTION CONCERNING STATUS OF
US ERDA'S GRANT OF 4.5 KGS OF HIGHLY ENRICHED URANIUM
(HEU) (93 PERCENT) VIA THE IAEA FOR THE PHILIPPINE ATOMIC
RESEARCH CENTER (PARC). AS THE PHILIPPINES PRESENTLY
HAS ONLY 6.833 KGS OF KEU IN ITS REACTOR, AND WILL GET
ONLY AN ADDITIONAL 4.5 KGS, PRESUMABLY IT WILL NOT COME
UNDER THE NEW GUIDELINES FOR APPROVING EXPORTS OF HEU
DETAILED IN REFTEL A WHICH CITE 15 KGS AS THE CUT-OFF
POINT FOR APPLICATION OF MORE RESTRICTIVE LICENSING
PROCEDURES.

2. HOWEVER, DURING RECENT DISCUSSION OF THE NUCLEAR
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NON-PROLIFERATION ACT OF 1978 (BASED ON REFTEL B),
COMMISSIONERS IBE OF PARC ASKED EMBOFF HOW THE ACT WOULD
AFFECT PLANS OF THE USG CONCERNING COMMITMENTS TO FUEL
RESEARCH REACTORS WITH HEU. HE SPECIFICALLY ASKED IF
THE ERDA GRANT IS STILL ON-STREAM, AS THE GOP IS ABOUT TO
FINALIZE A CONTRACT WITH A US FUEL FABRICATOR. HE RECALLED
GUIDANCE OF REFTEL A GIVEN HIM BY THE EMBASSY IN DECEMBER 1977,

BUT WONDERED IF THE ACT DID NOT SUPERCEDE THAT GUIDANCE.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESEARCH REACTOR
LOW ENRICHMENT FUEL DEVELOPMENT (REFTEL C) WILL ONLY
RAISE ISSUE AGAIN FOR DR. IBE. PLEASE ADVISE US OF
CURRENT STATUS OF ERDA GRANT. ALSO, GIVE US BRIEF
GENERAL STATEMENT ON US POLICY VIS A VIS SUPPLY OF HEU
TO RESEARCH REACTORS UNDER THE ACT, WHILE AWAITING OUTCOME
OF FIVE YEAR DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR LOW ENRICHMENT FUEL.
STULL

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Message Attributes

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